

SENATE BILL 458

By Watson

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 4;
Title 63; Title 68, Chapter 1, Part 1 and Title 68,
Chapter 140, relative to health.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 68-1-101(b), is amended by deleting the subsection and substituting:

(b)

(1) Each health related board and the emergency medical services board shall promulgate rules to establish a procedure to expedite the application process for the issuance and renewal of licenses, certifications, or permits to perform professional services regulated by such boards by requiring the boards to make a determination on such applications submitted by residents of this state within sixty (60) days of the date they are submitted. The boards shall collaborate in drafting and promulgating the same rules to be applied by each.

(2) If the health related board or the emergency medical services board requires additional information to make a determination on an application, it must be communicated to the applicant within sixty (60) days of the application being submitted, along with specific instructions for the person to complete the application.

(3) Subdivisions (b)(1) and (2) also apply to the issuance of licenses, certifications, or permits to perform professional services regulated by the boards to a person:

(A)

(i) Who is certified or licensed in another state to perform professional services in a state other than Tennessee;

(ii) Whose spouse is a member of the armed forces of the United States; and

(iii) Whose spouse is the subject of a military transfer to this state; or

(B)

(i) Who, as a member of the armed forces of the United States, carries a current license or certification in another state to perform substantially similar professional services in a state other than Tennessee; and

(ii) Who applies for a license in Tennessee within one hundred eighty (180) days of:

(a) Retiring from the armed forces of the United States;

(b) Receiving any discharge other than a dishonorable discharge from the armed forces of the United States; or

(c) Being released from active duty into a reserve component of the armed forces of the United States.

(4) The procedure established under subdivision (b)(1) for persons described in subdivision (b)(3) must include:

(A) Issuing the person a license, certificate, or permit, if, in the opinion of the board, the requirements for certification or licensure of such other state are substantially equivalent to that required in this state; or

(B) Developing a method to authorize the person to perform professional services regulated by the board in this state by issuing the person a temporary permit for a limited time period in accordance with § 63-1-142.

SECTION 2. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 63-1-115, is amended by designating the existing language as subsection (a) and adding the following as a new subsection:

Each health related board and the emergency medical services board is authorized, upon a majority vote of its members, to request the department to replace or transfer administrative staff or the attorney assigned to the board by the division of health related boards.

SECTION 3. This act takes effect July 1, 2023, the public welfare requiring it.